

SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF
TOWN
OF
HAMMONTON

Town of Hammonton Board of Education
Hammonton, New Jersey

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2014

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

of the

Town of Hammonton Board of Education

Hammonton, New Jersey

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2014

Prepared by

Town of Hammonton Board of Education

Business Administration

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Introductory Section

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Hammonton Board of Education

566 Old Forks Road
Hammonton, NJ 08037
Phone 609-567-7000 + Fax 609-561-4420
Website: www.hammontonps.org

Dr. C. DAN BLACHFORD
Superintendent of Schools

BARBARA S. PRETTYMAN
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

November 10, 2014

Honorable President and
Members of the Board of Education
Town of Hammonton School District
Atlantic County, New Jersey

Dear Board Members:

The comprehensive annual financial report of the Town of Hammonton School District (District) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, is hereby submitted. Responsibility for both the accuracy of the data and completeness and fairness of the presentation, including all disclosures, rests with the management of the Board of Education (Board). To the best of our knowledge and belief, the data presented in this report is accurate in all material respects and is reported in a manner designed to present fairly the financial position and results of operations of the various funds and account groups of the District. All disclosures necessary to enable the reader to gain an understanding of the District's financial activities have been included.

The comprehensive annual financial report is presented in four sections: introductory, financial, statistical and single audit. The introductory section includes this transmittal letter, the District's organizational chart and a list of principal officials. The financial section includes the basic financial statements and schedules, management's discussion and analysis, as well as the auditor's report thereon. The statistical section includes selected financial and demographic information, generally presented on a multi-year basis. The District is required to undergo an annual single audit in conformity with the provisions of the Single Audit Act of 1996 and the US. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and the New Jersey OMB Circular 04-04, *Single Audit Policy for Recipients of Federal Grants, State Grants and State Aid Payments*. Information related to this single audit, including the auditor's report on the internal control structure and compliance with applicable laws and regulations and findings and recommendations, are included in the single audit section of this report.

1) REPORTING ENTITY AND ITS SERVICES: The Town of Hammonton School District is an independent reporting entity as set forth in Section 2100 of the *GASB Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards*. All funds and account groups of the District are included in this report. The Town of Hammonton Board of Education and all its schools constitute the District's reporting entity.

The District provides a full range of educational services appropriate to grade levels Pre-K through twelve. These include regular as well as special education for handicapped children. The District completed the 2013-2014 fiscal year with an average daily enrollment of 3,623 students, which is 28 students above the previous year's average daily enrollment. The following details the changes in the student enrollment of the District over the last ten years.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Average Daily Enrollment</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
2013-2014	3,623	.77
2012-2013	3,595	1.55
2011-2012	3,540	.54
2010-2011	3,521	2.95
2009-2010	3,420	1.72
2008-2009	3,362	2.97
2007-2008	3,265	(.88)
2006-2007	3,294	(2.17)
2005-2006	3,367	1.99
2004-2005	3,301	1.85

2) ECONOMIC CONDITION AND OUTLOOK:

The ability to meet the standards of a “Thorough and Efficient Education” continues to be exceptionally difficult in Hammonton. For example, the New Jersey Department of Education has communicated that Hammonton is “...under adequacy by \$11,919,928. Further evidence of our lack of funding is illustrated by the “TAXPAYERS' GUIDE TO EDUCATION SPENDING.” In the group Operating Type K-12 / 3501 + Pupils; we are the second lowest spending district in Budgetary Per Pupil Cost – we spend \$11,195. Additionally, it does not seem likely that our revenue will increase due to the economic conditions in Atlantic County and more specifically in the entertainment industry in Atlantic City.

Hammonton Public Schools will continue to use every possible technique to provide the students with an efficient education, as well as, a thorough education. We are an approved NJ Department of Education Choice School for grades K-12. This brings in additional funding of about \$1,600,000 to our Early Childhood Elementary School, Warren E. Sooy School, Hammonton Middle School, and Hammonton High School.

3) MAJOR INITIATIVES:

There are several new initiatives for 2014-2015. Hammonton will continue with staff development and monitoring in the areas of differentiated instruction, Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP), Collins Writing, and Kid Writing. Some other initiatives that are designed to improve student academic accomplishments are as follows:

- We have a new Instructional Data Management system that will let us effectively make the transition to Core Curriculum Standards and the PARCC assessments. The teachers will develop assessments that are tied to the standards. Students will complete them and the data will go directly to the teachers' computers.
- We have also re-organized our teacher led instructional improvement teams. Each school has a teacher led “Data Management” team that analyzes the results of the NJ State Assessments